



URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL OF CHESHUNT



# **ANNUAL REPORT**

of the

***MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH***

including the Report of the

***PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR***

for the year

**1967**



PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT,  
THE CEDARS,  
131 HIGH STREET,  
CHESHUNT, HERTS.

June, 1967.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE  
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL OF CHESHUNT.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report on the health of the Urban District of Cheshunt for the year 1967.

For the period under review, Dr. Frank Appleton was Medical Officer of Health until April when he left to take up an appointment in Canada and he was succeeded by Dr. T. K. Abbott. I was Deputy Medical Officer of Health from September, 1967, and became Acting Medical Officer of Health in January, 1968 when Dr. Abbott left the service of the Council.

Vital statistics are normally taken as an indication of the state of the health of the district, but care needs to be exercised when dealing with statistics based on small numbers, such as Still Birth Rate and Infant Mortality Rate. The birth rate in Cheshunt was below the national average and so also was the death rate. There were 518 more births than deaths in the year. There were no maternal deaths.

The health of Cheshunt during 1967 was very satisfactory. There were no serious outbreaks of infectious disease, although there was a minor epidemic of measles, but it is hoped that in future years vaccination will help to control this childhood complaint. A special visit of the Mass Radiography Unit to Cheshunt was arranged to offer X-Ray facilities to the members of two Old Peoples Clubs, but the attendance was disappointing. A special investigation was undertaken on the report of a suspected case of smallpox, but this ultimately proved to be chicken-pox. The year was one in which it can be said that infectious diseases were well controlled.

The future of hospital facilities in Cheshunt was a matter which engendered some concern during the year. The proposal contained in the government's hospital plan to develop hospital facilities at Chase Farm, Enfield to serve this area stimulated much controversy locally and at a well attended public meeting in October, an Action Committee was formed to press the claims of this town for a hospital within its boundaries to serve the growing needs of the district.

In conclusion, I would like to thank the Chairman and Members of the Council for their interest in the work of the Public Health Department, also the Senior Public Health Inspector, Public Health Inspectors and other members of the Department for their loyal support.

JOHN P. SMYTH,

*Medical Officer of Health.*

## URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL OF CHESHUNT

### Public Health Committee, 1967-1968

Councillor A. E. Eastman (Chairman)

Councillor J. W. Gillson, J.P.

Councillor Mrs. B. C. Gull

Councillor S. G. Johnson

Councillor F. S. J. Kidd

Councillor Mrs. E. L. Larbalestier

Councillor D. I. Milnes

Councillor Mrs. D. Moody

Councillor A. Newell (Vice-Chairman)

Councillor Mrs. M. I. Ridealgh

### Public Health Department Staff :

#### *Medical Officer of Health (Full-time):*

FRANK APPLETON, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., D.P.A., resigned 6th April, 1967.

TERENCE K. ABBOTT, M.B., B.S., D.P.H., D.I.H., from 7th June, 1967.

#### *Deputy Medical Officer of Health (Part-time):*

PETER A. WOODBRIDGE, M.B., B.S., resigned 19th June, 1967.

JOHN P. SMYTH, L.L.M.R.C.P. L.L.M.R.C.S.(Irel) from 1st. September, 1967.

Official Address: The Cedars, 131 High Street, Cheshunt.

Telephone No.: Waltham Cross 25102

*Senior Public Health Inspector, Inspector under the  
Petroleum Acts, Inspector under the Shops Act:*

C. WILSON, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

#### *Deputy Senior Public Health Inspector:*

J. L. BILLINGS, A.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

#### *Public Health Inspector*

D. E. FELLOWS, M.A.P.H.I., from 1st January, 1967.

#### *Student Public Health Inspector:*

G. W. BAILEY from 14th August, 1967.

*Clerk/Typist:* Mrs. T. ATKINS resigned 31st May, 1967.

Mrs. P. STENNING from 22nd May, 1967 to 29th  
October, 1967.

Mrs. P. LIZZIMORE from 22nd November, 1967.

Mrs. B. M. WEBB (Part-time).

*Junior Clerk:* Mr. P. PAGE from 6th February, 1967 to 27th July,  
1967.

Mr. G. BUCKLAND from 31st July, 1967.

*Rodent Operator:* Mr. C. A. BARNABY resigned 10th February, 1967.

Mr. L. LOVELOCK from 20th February, 1967 to 1st  
September, 1967.

Mr. C. DEAN from 11th September, 1967 to 1st.  
December, 1967.

## SECTION 1

### STATISTICS

AREA: The area of Cheshunt is 8,480 acres.

POPULATION: Registrar-General's Estimate:

1956	27,000	1960	32,790	1964	39,040
1957	28,050	1961	35,490	1965	40,380
1958	29,450	1962	36,630	1966	41,990
1959	31,110	1963	37,530	1967	42,900

				1967	1968
Total hereditaments as per Valuation					
List (1st April) ... ..				15,619	16,342
Number of domestic hereditaments				12,997	13,443
Total Rateable Value ... ..				£2,059,963	£2,127,302
Estimated product of penny rate				£8,650	£8,800

### EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS

				Male	Female	Total
Live Births—Legitimate	...	...		391	371	762
Illegitimate	...	...		15	13	28
		Total				790
Still Births—Legitimate	...	...		8	5	13
Illegitimate	...	...		0	0	0
Deaths from all causes	...	...		160	112	272
Deaths of Infants under one year of age:						
Legitimate	...	...	...	5	3	8
Illegitimate	...	...	...	0	0	0
Deaths of Infants under four weeks of age:						
Legitimate	...	...	...	5	1	6
Illegitimate	...	...	...	0	0	0
Deaths of Infants under one week of age:						
Legitimate	...	...	...	5	1	6
Illegitimate	...	...	...	0	0	0

## BIRTH AND DEATH RATES.

To make an approximate allowance for the way in which the sex and age distribution of the local population differs from that for England and Wales as a whole the crude birth and death rates for the area should be multiplied by the area comparability factor supplied for the purpose by the General Register Office. When local crude birth and death rates have been so adjusted they are comparable with the crude rate for England and Wales and with the corresponding adjusted rate for any other area for that year.

The adjusted rates for Cheshunt, together with the crude rates for England and Wales for comparison, are as follows:

### Birth Rates

	Cheshunt				England & Wales
	No. of Births	Crude Birth Rate	Comparability Factor	Adjusted Rate	
1963	801	21.34	0.84	17.93	18.2
1964	837	21.44	0.84	18.01	18.4
1965	851	21.07	0.84	17.70	18.1
1966	831	19.79	0.84	16.62	17.7
1967	790	18.4	0.84	15.5	17.2

### Death Rates

	Cheshunt				England & Wales
	No. of Deaths	Crude Death Rate	Comparability Factor	Adjusted Rate	
1963	285	7.59	1.54	11.69	12.2
1964	254	6.51	1.54	10.03	11.3
1965	292	7.23	1.53	11.06	11.5
1966	255	6.07	1.52	9.23	11.7
1967	272	6.3	1.62	10.2	11.2

				Cheshunt	Hertford County	England & Wales
Live Birth Rate (crude)	...	...	...	18.4	16.5	—
Area Comparability Factor	...	...	...	0.84	0.9	—
Standardised Birth Rate	...	...	...	15.5	15.5	17.2
Still Birth Rate	...	...	...	16.2	12.5	14.8
Infant Mortality Rate (deaths under 1 year of age)	...	...	...	10.1	14.0	18.3
Legitimate ...	...	...	...	10.5	13.6	—
Illegitimate	...	...	...	—	19.6	—
Neo-natal Mortality Rate (deaths under 4 weeks of age) ...	...	...	...	7.6	10.2	12.5
Early Neo-natal Mortality Rate (deaths under 1 week of age)				7.6	8.9	10.8
Perinatal Mortality Rate (still- births and deaths under 1 week of age)	...	...	...	23.7	22.3	25.4
Maternal Mortality Rate	...	...	...	Nil	0.1	0.3
Death Rate (crude)	...	...	...	6.3	8.9	—
Area Comparability Factor	...	...	...	1.62	1.1	—
Standardised Death Rate	...	...	...	10.2	10.0	11.2

#### INFANT MORTALITY:

All Infants per 1,000 live births.

				Cheshunt No. of Deaths	Rate	England & Wales Rate
1958	...	...	...	8	12.94	22.6
1959	...	...	...	8	12.48	22.2
1960	...	...	...	14	20.47	21.9
1961	...	...	...	18	23.02	21.6
1962	...	...	...	23	29.56	21.6
1963	...	...	...	14	17.48	21.1
1964	...	...	...	7	8.36	20.0
1965	...	...	...	10	11.75	19.0
1966	...	...	...	17	20.46	19.0
1967	...	...	...	8	10.1	18.3

# CAUSES OF DEATH DURING 1967:

	Male	Female	Total
Tuberculosis, Respiratory ... ..	1	0	1
Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases	0	2	2
Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach ... ..	8	3	11
Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus ...	10	2	12
Malignant Neoplasm, Breast ... ..	0	10	10
Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms ... ..	16	19	35
Leukaemia, Aleukaemia ... ..	2	2	4
Diabetes ... ..	2	1	3
Vascular Lesions of Nervous System...	11	13	24
Coronary Disease, Angina ... ..	39	13	52
Hypertension with Heart Disease ...	1	1	2
Other Heart Disease ... ..	11	16	27
Other Circulatory Disease ... ..	11	1	12
Pneumonia . . . . .	7	8	15
Bronchitis ... ..	16	3	19
Other Disease of the Respiratory System ... ..	1	2	3
Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum ...	1	0	1
Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea ...	1	2	3
Nephritis and Nephrosis ... ..	2	1	3
Hyperplasia of Prostate ... ..	1	0	1
Congenital Malformations ... ..	1	0	1
Other Defined and Ill-defined Diseases	13	12	25
Motor Vehicle Accidents ... ..	3	0	3
All Other Accidents ... ..	1	1	2
Suicide ... ..	1	0	1
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All causes ... ..	160	112	272
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## VITAL STATISTICS:

The estimate of the population of Cheshunt is the mid-year estimate of the Registrar-General. He considers that the population has increased by 910.

There were 790 live births and 272 deaths so that there was a natural increase of population of 518.

There were 28 illegitimate births, representing 3.5% of the total births and an illegitimate birth rate of 0.65 per 1,000 of the estimated population.

During the year there were 13 stillbirths. This gives a rate of 16.2 per 1,000 (live and still) births. The rate for England and Wales is 14.8.

Eight infants died during 1967. Six of these children died within the first month of life due to causes connected with birth or pregnancy.

There were no maternal deaths in Cheshunt during the year.

## SECTION II

### PERSONAL HEALTH SERVICES

- AMBULANCE      Fire and Ambulance Station, Cheshunt. Establishment on 31st December, 1967, two shift leaders, twelve ambulance drivers (ten male, two female); two ambulances; two sitting-case cars.
- DAY NURSERY      The Chestnuts, Cheshunt (Waltham Cross 24878). Fifty places for children 0 to 5 years.
- HOME HELP SERVICE      Organiser: Mrs. M. L. K. Frost, Chestnuts Day Nursery, Crossbrook Street, Cheshunt (Waltham Cross 24658) Office hours: Monday, Tuesday and Thursday, 9.00 a.m. to 1.00 p.m., 2.00 p.m. to 4.00 p.m.; Wednesday 9.00 a.m. to 1.00 p.m. and Friday 9.00 a.m. to 1.00 p.m., 2.00 p.m. to 5.00 p.m.
- WELFARE CENTRES AND CLINICS      (1) *Health Centre, Blindman's Lane, Cheshunt.* I.W.C. Monday 2.00 p.m. to 4.00 p.m. Thursday 10.00 a.m. to 12 noon, 2.00 p.m. to 4.00 p.m.
- Dental (by appointment) Monday p.m. alternate. Wednesday all day. Thursday a.m. Friday a.m. (p.m. alternate).
- General Clinic. Fourth Tuesday a.m.
- Ophthalmic. Friday a.m.
- Orthoptic. Friday a.m.
- A.N. Relaxation Class. Tuesday p.m.
- Speech Therapy. Tuesday a.m.
- (2) *Memorial Hall, Goff's Oak.* Every Friday p.m.
- (3) *Health Centre, rear of Greenfield House, High Street, Waltham Cross* (Waltham Cross 23401).
- General Clinic. First Thursday p.m.

Mothers' Club, Wednesday evenings.  
(Alternate).

Cytology — Alternate Monday mornings; one  
Wednesday evening a month.

Dental Clinic. Monday a.m.; Tuesday all  
day; Thursday a.m.; Friday a.m. (p.m.  
alternate).

Speech Therapy Clinic. (By appointment)  
Thursday a.m.

Ante-Natal Clinic. Monday p.m. (Appointment  
only).

Relaxation Classes. Tuesday p.m.

Infant Welfare Centre. Wednesday a.m. and  
p.m.

Chiropody Clinic (by appointment only).  
Tuesday p.m. Friday 9.00 a.m. to 12 noon.  
2.00 p.m. to 5.00 p.m.

Physiotherapy Clinic. Variable days and  
times. Appointments are arranged. Orth-  
opaedic Clinic. First Wednesday in each  
month. 2.00 to 5.00 p.m.

(4) *Tolmers Road, Cuffley.* Physiotherapy  
Clinic. Variable days and times. Appoint-  
ments are arranged.

(5) *Honey Lane Hospital, Waltham Abbey.*  
Chest Clinic. Monday 9.45 a.m. to 12 noon.  
Thursday 2.00 p.m. to 3.45 p.m. Wednesday  
2.00 p.m. to 3.00 p.m. (Contact Clinic).

(6) *Dig Dag Hill.* Infant Welfare Clinic.  
Tuesday 2.00 p.m. to 4.30 p.m.

#### HEALTH VISITORS AND SCHOOL NURSES

Miss J. Martin, Welfare Centre, High Street,  
Waltham Cross (Waltham Cross 23401).

Miss M. E. Pawsey, Mrs. P. Nugent (Part-  
time), Health Centre, Blindman's Lane,  
Cheshunt (Waltham Cross 28232).

Miss J. P. Young, 87 Cuffley Hill, Goff's  
Oak (Cuffley 2420).

Miss M. Williams, Miss J. Katnic, Health Visitors, Chestnuts Day Nursery, Crossbrook Street, Cheshunt (Waltham Cross 20905).

DISTRICT NURSES  
AND MIDWIVES

Miss K. M. Woodcock, 24 Rowland Close, Cheshunt (Waltham Cross 29032).

Mrs. K. Fennelly, 27, Ousden Drive, Cheshunt (Waltham Cross 23745).

Miss M. Smith, 24 Cromwell Avenue, Cheshunt (Waltham Cross 23580).

Mrs. V. Claxton, 32 D'arcy Close, Cheshunt (Waltham Cross 29308).

Miss E. O'Connor, 178b High Street, Waltham Cross (Waltham Cross 27750).

Miss M. G. Brown, 87 Cuffley Hill, Goff's Oak (Cuffley 2420).

Mrs. A. Nice (Part-time), 71 Park Lane, Flamstead End (Waltham Cross 26586).

(Vacancy) 1 Prescott Road, Cheshunt (Waltham Cross 22344).

DISTRICT NURSES

Mrs. A. Izatt, 65 Broadlands Avenue, Enfield, Middx. (Howard 3311).

CLINIC NURSES

Mrs. T. V. Taylor, Mrs. G. Muncy, Mrs. J. Crawley, Mrs. S. Wheeler.

PART-TIME  
DISTRICT NURSES

Mrs. G. Nixon, 7 Andrews Lane, Cheshunt (Waltham Cross 25269).

Mrs. M. G. Nunn, 27 Cunningham Avenue, Enfield. (Waltham Cross 25525).

## OTHER SERVICES

### BLOOD TRANSFUSION

Sessions are held at the Health Centre, Waltham Cross, at regular intervals. Further information may be obtained from Miss E. R. Cooper, Honorary Local Organiser, National Blood Transfusion Service, 41 Southfield Road, Waltham Cross. Telephone No. Waltham Cross 26258.

### BRITISH RED CROSS SOCIETY

The Society has a range of medical equipment for the sick and injured available on loan on the recommendation of Medical Practitioners and District Nurses. The equipment is at 178A High Street, Waltham Cross. The depot is open from 9.00 a.m. – 1.00 p.m. daily.

The Society staff a First Aid Post at weekends and on Bank Holidays at the Herts. County Council Sailing Base, Windmill Lane (adjoining the Council's Swimming Pool).

In addition to their normal activities, which include the provision of First Aid Posts at local events, the detachment has available a team which is on call for disaster relief work. Non-members of the Society are welcome for First Aid Training. Details may be obtained from the Commandant, Miss E. R. Cooper, 41 Southfield Road, Waltham Cross (Waltham Cross 26258).

### LABORATORY FACILITIES

A hospital laboratory service is available at Chase Farm Hospital and at the Hertford County Hospital.

Water, milk and food specimens are sent to the Central Public Health Laboratory, Colindale, or to the Regional Public Health Laboratory, Luton.

## NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT

During the year no action was taken by the Council under Section 47 of the principal Act for the removal to suitable premises of persons in need of care and attention. The advice of the Department is occasionally sought in dealing with problems involving care and attention, usually of aged persons living alone, and enquirers are put in touch with the Home Help or other appropriate services.

## MORTUARY

Since 1944 the Council have maintained the Cemetery Lodge, Bury Green Road, as a mortuary and the building was infrequently used until October, 1961, which was the last date on which a body was admitted into the mortuary.

Since then it has been the general practice to use mortuaries at hospitals which are better equipped when a post-mortem examination is required.

In December, after consultation with the Coroner and the Police, the Council decided to discontinue the provision of a mortuary.

## W.R.V.S. MEALS SERVICE

The W.R.V.S. continue to operate the Meals on Wheels Service for housebound people nominated from statutory welfare sources. The service is used mainly by old age pensioners and particularly by men living alone.

During the year the W.R.V.S. were able to increase the frequency of delivery of meals from two to four days per week having been successful in the recruitment of more volunteers but there is still a great need for additional help since the number of persons in receipt of meals is constantly increasing. Further information may be obtained from Mrs. E. M. Brown, Centre Organiser, W.R.V.S. Centre, 3 High Street, Cheshunt (Waltham Cross 22050).

## HOME SAFETY

The Home Safety Act, 1961, enables Local Authorities to promote safety in the home and to make contributions to voluntary organisations whose activities consist of or include the promotion of home safety. The Council are subscribers to the Home Safety Section of RoSPA.

In January, a small exhibit on home safety was staged in the foyer of Wolsey Hall during the period of the Road Craft Exhibition. This was the only home safety propaganda undertaken during the year.

## HEALTH EDUCATION

3,000 copies of the 10-Point Codes for food trade workers and for housewives, published by the Central Council for Health Education on behalf of the Ministry of Health, were distributed to the occupiers of all food premises in the Urban District. A further 2,000 copies were made available to the general public.

Slogan plates on the postal franking machine continue to be used for health propaganda.

Documentary films on paper sack collection of refuse, clean air and housing improvements were shown at a meeting on 31st October.

Members of the staff of the Department gave a course of lectures in the Autumn on public health subjects to the local detachment of the British Red Cross Society.

# SECTION III

## PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

### NOTIFIABLE DISEASES

The following table shows details of diseases notified during 1966 and 1967 :—

				1966	1967		
				Notified Cases	Notified Cases	Cases admitted to Hospital	Deaths
Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	39	32	—	—
Measles	...	...	...	375	507	1	—
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	6	5	—	—
Pneumonia	...	...	...	2	—	—	—
Erysipelas	...	...	...	1	2	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	...	...	...	1	4	—	—
Dysentery	...	...	...	1	2	—	—
Food Poisoning	...	...	...	9	6	—	—
Tuberculosis	...	...	...	17	4	4	1

### MEASLES

Notification of Measles in the last ten years are shown in the following table :—

Year						Cases Notified	Notifications per 1,000 population
1958	...	...	...	...	...	66	2.10
1959	...	...	...	...	...	713	22.92
1960	...	...	...	...	...	104	3.17
1961	...	...	...	...	...	935	26.35
1962	...	...	...	...	...	122	3.33
1963	...	...	...	...	...	836	22.28
1964	...	...	...	...	...	383	9.81
1965	...	...	...	...	...	269	6.66
1966	...	...	...	...	...	375	8.95
1967	...	...	...	...	...	507	11.8

## WHOOPI NG COUGH

The incidence of this disease over the past ten years is shown in the following table :—

	Cases Notified	Notifications per 1,000 population
1958	1	0.03
1959	16	0.51
1960	101	3.08
1961	18	0.51
1962	9	0.25
1963	52	1.39
1964	53	1.36
1965	3	0.07
1966	6	0.14
1967	5	0.1

## TUBERCULOSIS

The number of new cases of Tuberculosis in 1967 was 4 compared with 17 cases in 1966.

New cases, 1967—classified by age groups :—

Age	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Totals
	M.	F.	M.	F.	
0— 5	—	—	—	—	—
5—15	1	—	—	—	1
15—25	—	—	—	—	—
25—35	—	—	—	—	—
35—45	—	1	—	—	1
45—55	—	—	—	—	—
55—65	—	—	—	—	—
65 upwards	1	—	—	1	2
	2	1	—	1	4

	1966	1967
Number of cases from other areas transferred to		
Cheshunt... ..	11	2

There was one death attributed to Tuberculosis in Cheshunt during 1967.

No action was taken under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925, or under Section 172 of the Public Health Act, 1936, which relate respectively to infectious persons suffering from tuberculosis and engaged in the handling of milk and to the removal to hospital of infectious persons suffering from tuberculosis.

## FOOD POISONING

Six sporadic cases of food poisoning were notified. In one case the causative organism was found to be *Salmonella Typhimurium*, but in the other five cases the cause was not known.

## DISINFECTION

No current or terminal disinfection was carried out in connection with notifiable diseases during the year. Library books from houses where notifiable diseases have occurred are returned to the Public Health Department for disinfection before re-issue by the library.

Cases of Scabies occurred in two households in the latter part of the year and were treated at the Cleansing Station of the London Borough of Enfield. Bedding and personal clothing were treated at the same time. Scabies is not now a notifiable disease.

## SECTION IV

### SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES AND INSPECTION OF THE AREA

#### REPORT OF THE SENIOR PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

I submit the Annual Report on the work carried out by the Public Health Inspectors during the year 1967. It is my 30th Annual Report to the Council.

The year was one of many staff changes. Mr. D. E. Fellows was appointed to the post of additional Public Health Inspector from 1st January, but the other vacancy for an additional Public Health Inspector was not filled during the year. Mrs. Atkins left the post of Clerk-Typist, in which she had given outstanding service to the Department for 20 years. There were also changes in the post of Junior Clerk and Rodent Operator. Frequent staff changes do, of course, disturb the continuity of the work and unfortunately they appear to be a normal feature of all Departments of Local Government administration at the present time.

The Council delegated a variety of routine functions, such as the approval of Standard Improvement Grants and Statutory Notices for housing repairs and nuisances, to the Chairman of the Public Health Committee. The granting and renewal of licences for slaughtermen, pet shops, scrap metal dealers etc., and the renewal of petroleum and caravan licences were delegated to the Senior Public Health Inspector. These powers have been helpful in facilitating the issue of licences and notices.

There was a noteworthy decrease in the number of food complaints compared with the previous year, but again a variety of articles were found in food, the most remarkable being a felt pen found in a wrapped sliced loaf of bread. The pen was 5 inches long, had a metal barrel half inch in diameter and a felt tip. It was identified as a coding pen which had been attached to the slicing and wrapping machine by a clip.

Details of the varied work done during the year are given in the summaries which follow. With a depleted staff the capacity available for systematic routine inspections and advisory work was reduced and this aspect is important in maintaining a high standard of environmental hygiene.

I would again like to record appreciation of the loyal support of all members of the Department.

C. WILSON,  
*Senior Public Health Inspector.*

INSPECTION OF THE AREA

The Inspections made by the Public Health Inspectors during the year numbered 2,462 and details as to the nature of these inspections are given in the tables which follow. 773 complaints relating to a variety of matters were received.

SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS

Number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under the Public Health and Housing Acts) ... ..	184
Number of dwelling-houses inspected for other than housing defects ... ..	180
Number of premises other than houses inspected ...	365
Premises re-inspected ... ..	291
Visits to works in progress ... ..	87
Miscellaneous visits ... ..	1,355
	<hr/>
	2,462
	<hr/>

Included in the previous table are the following classified visits :—

#### PUBLIC HEALTH ACTS:

Infectious Diseases	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	89
Disposal of Refuse	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	25
Drainage Works	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	168
Swimming Baths	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Water Supplies	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	23
Infestation	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	32

#### HOUSING ACTS:

Improvement Grants—Discretionary	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	62
Improvement Grants—Standard	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	55
Overcrowding	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	11
Immigrants	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	18
Contravention of Council Mortgage Deed—Lodgers	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	14

#### CLEAN AIR ACT:

Smoke Control Areas	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Smoke Nuisances	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	125
Atmospheric Pollution Stations	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	168
Boiler Furnace Installations	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	9
Smoke Observations	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	24

#### GENERAL:

Caravan Act	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	101
Petroleum Acts	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	85
National Assistance Act, Section 47	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Pet Shops	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Noise Abatement	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	52
Rodent Control	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	83
Animal Boarding Establishments	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	179
Shops Act	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1

Details of inspections of food premises and factories are given in the appropriate sections of the Report.

## UNFIT HOUSES

During the year Nos. 1, 2, 3 and 4 Lucas End Cottages, Crouch Lane and No. 13 Stockwell Lane were represented as unfit for human habitation but demolition orders had not been made by the Council before the end of the year.

The following houses were demolished during the year :—

	Demolition Order Made	Closing Order Made	Date of Demolition
161, 163, 165 and 171 High Street, Cheshunt		24.7.57	30.6.67
1, 2, 3 and 4 Crocodile Cottages, College Road	22.4.65		18.5.67
1 and 2 Silver Birch Cottages, Burton Lane	16.12.66		17.10.67

Houses dealt with under the Demolition or Closing Order procedure of the Housing Acts since the beginning of 1953 now totals 191.

Fifteen houses were rendered fit by the owners after the service of informal notices and in ten houses defects were remedied after the service of notices under the Public Health Acts.

## IMPROVEMENT GRANTS

Owing to the restriction on capital expenditure, no further progress was made during the year with regard to the two areas designated by the Council in 1962 for improvement with the aid of grant.

During the year, six Standard Improvement Grants were authorised totalling £825, an average grant of £137.10.0d. per house.

Nine Discretionary Improvement Grants were made for works estimated to cost £5,578 on which the total grants approved amounted to £2,781, an average grant of £309.

## OVERCROWDING AND HOUSES IN MULTIPLE OCCUPATION

Several complaints alleging overcrowding were investigated during the year but in no case was statutory overcrowding found.

The one house in Cheshunt in multiple occupation on which there is a Direction under the Housing Act, 1961, limiting the number of occupants was found to be overcrowded and legal proceedings were authorised. Before the proceedings could be brought to Court, however, the numbers had been reduced to within the limits allowed by the Direction and the proceedings were withdrawn.

Contraventions of the Council's mortgage deed by taking in lodgers without consent were brought to notice less frequently in 1967 than in previous years. In giving their consent for this purpose, the Council use a bedroom standard so that a house with two double bedrooms and one single bedroom is considered to provide accommodation for a maximum of five persons irrespective of age.

## COMMON LODGING HOUSES

There are no registered common lodging houses in the Urban District.

## RENT ACT, 1957

There were no applications for the issue of certificates of disrepair or for the cancellation of existing certificates under the Act during the year.

## CARAVANS

The Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act, 1960, prohibits the use of land as a caravan site without a site licence, and a site licence cannot be granted unless the applicant has planning permission to use the site for caravans.

At the end of the year there were 12 site licences in operation, 9 for individual caravan sites and 3 for multiple sites where there were more than three caravans. The total number of caravans was 142. One hundred and one visits were made in connection with caravans during the year. Unauthorised caravans occasionally give difficulty but usually move on after warnings.

The Camping Club of Great Britain and Ireland operate a recreational site for both tents and caravans at Theobalds Park. The Club is an exempted organisation under the Act.

Following a caravan fire at the New Waltham Caravan Site, copies of a fire safety precautions brochure were brought to the notice of caravan operators with a suggestion that they should be distributed to caravan occupiers on the sites. The licensing powers of local authorities deal with caravan sites, not with the construction of caravans. The National Caravan Council have a badge scheme for caravans which comply with the relevant British Standards and Codes of Practice relating to fire protection and they are anxious to publicise this scheme so that purchasers of caravans will insist on obtaining vans which satisfy these requirements.

Most caravan fires are caused either by negligence or the incorrect use of heating installations. That is the conclusion which the National Caravan Council state they have reached after much investigation. They stress the importance of regular inspections and maintenance of solid fuel installations, paraffin appliances and gas systems used in caravans.

## HOUSING STATISTICS

Number of houses erected since 1945 :—

By the Urban District Council of Cheshunt	...	...	2,006
By other Local Authorities	...	...	1,370
By Private Enterprise	...	...	5,306
			<hr/>
			8,682
			<hr/>

Number of houses erected during 1967.

By the Urban District Council of Cheshunt ... ..	217
By other Local Authorities (Caretaker's Bungalow, Goff's Grammar School) ... ..	1
By Private Enterprise ... ..	271
	<hr/>
	489
	<hr/>

INSPECTION OF FACTORIES

1. INSPECTION FOR PURPOSES OF PROVISIONS AS TO HEALTH

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities ...	—	—	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by Local Authority. ... ..	95	47	2	—
(iii) Other Premises under the Act excluding out-workers' premises ...	—	—	—	—
Total ...	95	47	2	—

## 2. CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND

Particulars	Number of Cases in which defects were found				No. of cases which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
Unsuitable or Defective	2	1	—	2	—
Other Offences including offences under Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 ... ..	—	—	—	—	—
Total ...	2	1	—	2	—

## OUTWORK

Lists of outworkers as required by Section 133 of the Act are submitted by one factory making wearing apparel. The number of outworkers on the August list was 64. Many of these reside in adjoining areas and details are forwarded to the local authority concerned. Fifteen inspections were made of outworkers' premises in Cheshunt and they were found to be satisfactory.

## PLACES OF PUBLIC ENTERTAINMENT

Under Regulation 5 of the Hertfordshire (Music and Dancing) Regulations, 1955, all new applications to the County Council for a licence must be accompanied by a letter from the County District Council stating whether there is any objection on sanitary grounds to the licensing of the premises.

No applications for new licences were received during the year.

## SERVICE OF NOTICES

Statutory Notices under Section 17, Public Health Act, 1961, to remedy stopped up drain ... ..	2
Statutory Notices under Section 277, Public Health Act, 1936, requiring information as to ownership of premises	10
Statutory Notices under Section 24, Public Health Act, 1936, to owner of premises of proposed work of maintenance on sewer ... ..	3
Statutory Notices under Section 287, Public Health Act, 1936, of intention to enter ... ..	2
Statutory Notices under Section 19, Housing Act, 1961, requiring information in connection with a house in respect of which a Direction under Section 19(1) of the Housing Act, 1961, is in force ... ..	7
Statutory Notices under Section 19, Housing Act, 1961, of direction to prevent or reduce overcrowding in a house in multiple occupation ... ..	1
Statutory Notices under Section 170, Housing Act, 1957, of requisition for information ... ..	8
Intimation Notices served during the year ... ..	110

## WATER SUPPLY

The whole of the district is within the area of supply of the Metropolitan Water Board. The Director of Water Examination has kindly supplied the following information relating to the Board's direct supply to the Cheshunt area :—

"1. (a) The supply was satisfactory both as to quality and quantity throughout 1967,

(b) All new and repaired mains are disinfected with chlorine, after a predetermined period of contact the pipes are flushed out and refilled; samples of water are then collected from these treated mains; and the mains are returned to service only after results are found to be satisfactory.

The quality control from these laboratories is carried out by means of daily sampling from sources of supply, from the treatment works or well stations, from the distribution system, and through to the consumer. Any sign of contamination or any other abnormality is immediately investigated.

- (c) (i) The Board has no record of the number of structurally separate dwellings supplied in your area, but the population supplied direct according to the Registrar General's estimate at 30th June, 1967, was 42,896.

- (ii) No houses were permanently supplied by standpipe.

- (d) No fluoride was added, and where the fluoride content is indicated in the analyses it represents the naturally occurring fluoride in the water.

- 2. (a) The supply was mostly derived from Thames derived water with the addition of well water from the Hoe Lane pumping station, and from time to time from Waltham Abbey pumping station. The higher ground at Goff's Oak also receives water from Darnicle Hill. No new sources of supply were instituted and there were no changes to the general scheme of supply in your area.

The number of samples collected and the bacteriological and chemical analyses of the supply from the above sources after treatment are shown on the tables which follow.

- (b) The Board's river and well sources have not been considered to have a plumbo-solvent action, on account of their hardness content and alkaline reaction. It should, however, be appreciated that all types of water pick up varying amounts of metal from piping, particularly when it is newly installed; this applies to copper, zinc, iron and also lead.

Tests for lead have been carried out in connection with chemical analyses of samples of running water collected from premises in the distribution system and I set out below the information obtained over the period 1st January to 31st December, 1967 :—

LEAD CONTENT (mg/1.Pb) WATER FROM MAIN TAPS  
IN CONSUMERS' PREMISES

	Number of Samples	Per cent
Less than 0.01	64	66.7
0.01	22	22.9
0.02	3	3.1
0.03	4	4.2
0.04	2	2.1
0.05	0	—
0.06	1	1.0
	96	100.0

The above figures apply to the whole of the Board's area but it should be pointed out that the general characteristics of the water are similar throughout the area so that the findings are applicable to individual Boroughs.

The regular system of examination for lead in water in domestic premises will continue during 1968."

# METROPOLITAN WATER BOARD —

## AVERAGE RESULTS OF THE CHEMICAL EXAMINATION (C

Description of the Sample	Number of Samples Day of the month	MILLIGRAMMES PER 100								
		Ammon- iacal Nitrogen	Albu- minoid Nitrogen	Nitrate Nitrogen	Oxygen abs. from KMnO <sub>4</sub> 4 hrs at 27°C.	B.O.D. 5 days at 20°C	Hardness (total) CaCO <sub>3</sub>	Hardness (non- carbonate) CaCO <sub>3</sub>	Mag- nesium as Mg	So- dium as Na
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)
Thames- derived North of River *	207	0.026	0.090	4.1	1.12		289	75	5	22.
Hoe Lane	4	0.149	0.043	nil	0.39		419	170	23	19.
Waltham Abbey	4	0.175	0.046	0.2	0.42		281	62	25	26
Darnicle Hill	4	0.006	0.035	0.9	0.20		350	105	20	195

\* Ashford Common, Kemp

## BACTERIOLOGICAL RESULTS

### WATER SUPPLIED TO THE U

#### BEFORE TREATMENT

Source of supply	Number of samples	Agar plate count per ml.		Coliform count	
		20-24 hours at 37°C.	3 days at 22°C.	Per cent. samples negative in 100 ml.	Count per 100 ml.
* Thames-derived, North of River					
Hoe Lane	170	0.2	5	98.82	—
Waltham Abbey	250	0.1	8	100.0	—
Darnicle Hill	77	0.5	342	45.45	2.2

\* Ashford Common, Kempt

# WATER EXAMINATION DEPARTMENT

## WATER SUPPLIED TO THE URBAN DISTRICT OF CHESHUNT

(unless otherwise stated)

	Chloride as Cl	Phos- phate as PO <sub>4</sub>	Silicate as SiO <sub>2</sub>	Sulphate as SO <sub>4</sub>	Natural Fluoride as F	Surface- active material as Manoxol OT	CO <sub>2</sub>	Tur- bidity units	Colour (Burgess units)	pH value	Electri- cal Con- ductivity (microm- hos)
	(13)	(14)	(15)	(16)	(17)	(18)	(19)	(20)	(21)	(22)	(23)
1	30	1.9	10	62	0.30	0.01		0.1	12	7.9	600
1	30			160	0.65		30	0.9	9	7.2	770
7	24			84	0.70		16.5	1.1	6	7.5	580
7	25			116	0.75		28	0.2	2	7.3	680

W, Hanworth Road & Barn Elms

## YEARLY AVERAGES, 1967

### URBAN DISTRICT OF CHESHUNT

AFTER TREATMENT						
Escherichia coli count		Number of samples	Agar plate count per ml.		Coliform count	E. coli count
Per cent. samples negative in 100 ml.	Count per 100 ml.		20-24 hours 37°C.	3 days at 22°C.	Per cent. samples negative in 100 ml.	Per cent. samples negative in 100 ml.
		1,691	16.0		100.0	100.0
3.82	—	172	0.0	1	100.0	100.0
0.0	—	255	0.0	13	99.61	100.0
1.55	1.4	79	0.4	57	100.0	100.0

W, Hanworth Road & Barn Elms.

All dwelling-houses in the district are supplied from public mains direct to the houses with the exception of the following premises where water is obtained from private sources :—

Aqueduct Lock House, River Lea Bank.  
Aqueduct Lock Cottage, River Lea Bank.  
Cheshunt Lock House, River Lea Bank.  
Housemoors Cottage, Halfhide Lane.  
New River Cottage, Halfhide Lane.  
Theobalds Secondary Modern School, Theobalds Park.  
Theobalds Cottage, Theobalds Park.  
Cottage, South Villa Nursery, Park Lane, Waltham Cross.

During the year 11 samples for bacteriological examination were taken from these private supplies. All the samples were reported as satisfactory.

## SWIMMING BATHS

The Cheshunt Swimming Pool, which is owned by the Council, is fitted with modern plant for heating and continuously filtering and chlorinating the bath water. The pH value and chlorine content is checked at frequent intervals daily and a record of these tests is maintained.

Eight samples were taken for bacteriological examination during the season and they were found to be satisfactory.

The swimming pool at Theobalds Park Secondary School is operated on the fill and empty system with water from a chlorinated supply at the school. Two samples of water were submitted for examination during the season and were found to be satisfactory.

The County Health Department regularly sample water from school swimming pools belonging to the Education Authority. Copies of reports on 26 such samples were forwarded to this Department during the year and all were satisfactory.

## CESSPOOL DRAINAGE

The emptying of domestic cesspools by the local authority is free of charge up to a limit of 22,000 gallons per annum. Charges for amounts in excess of that quantity and the emptying of non-domestic cesspools are based on the actual cost of the work.

## SEWERAGE

The Engineer and Surveyor states that there is no change in the position as reported last year. Cheshunt sewers discharge to the Greater London Council's sewage disposal works at Edmonton.

Cheshunt is adequately provided with sewers, apart from the areas where properties are drained to septic tanks and cesspools. The projected development by the Greater London Council at Flamstead End will require the laying of a branch trunk sewer and this is being dealt with by the Council's Consulting Engineers, Messrs. J. D. and D. M. Watson.

## INFESTATION

Contact insecticides are used where necessary to combat infestation.

The assistance of the Department was sought during the year in dealing with infestations by the following insects :—

Ants	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	11
Wasps	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	159
Bugs	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Bees	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Clover Mites	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Swift Mites	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Fleas	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Others	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6

Where work is undertaken by the Department to combat infestation a charge is made.

## FERAL PIGEONS

The problem of pigeons at Theobalds Grove Railway Station bridge, which have been a nuisance to pedestrians for a long time, was resolved during the year by the blocking off of the nesting places under that part of the bridge over the footpath. The pigeons continue to occupy that part of the bridge over the carriageway.

## RODENT CONTROL

Year ended 31st December, 1967.

Properties other than Sewers	Type of Property	
	Non-Agricultural	Agricultural
1. No of properties in district	15,314	305
2. (a) Total number of properties (including nearby premises) inspected following notification	338	13
(b) Number infested by ...		
(i) Rats ... ..	266	13
(ii) Mice ... ..	72	—
3. (a) Total number of properties inspected for rats and/or mice for reasons other than notification	162	—
(b) Number infested by		
(i) Rats ... ..	82	—
(ii) Mice ... ..	4	—

### Sewers

4. No sewers were found to be infested by rats during the year.

The treatment of rodent infestation at private dwellings is free but charges are made for work carried out at other premises.

#### RIDING ESTABLISHMENTS ACT, 1964

This Act which came into operation on 1st April, 1965, forbids the keeping of a Riding Establishment except under the authority of a licence issued by the local authority. A licence is granted annually after a report from a Veterinary Surgeon or Veterinary Practitioner on the suitability of the premises for keeping a Riding Establishment and describing the condition of the premises and the horses in it.

The licences issued in respect of Riding Establishments at Theobalds Park and Woodgreen Farm were renewed during the year.

#### PET ANIMALS ACT, 1951

Four licences to keep pet shops were granted during the year and the conditions recommended by the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals were incorporated in the licence.

#### ANIMAL BOARDING ESTABLISHMENTS ACT, 1963

This Act provides that no person shall keep a Boarding Establishment for animals except under the authority of a licence granted by the local authority who may impose such conditions as appear to be necessary for securing the objects of the Act. Two licences to keep such boarding establishments were issued by the Council during the year.

#### REFUSE DUMPS

Dumping of refuse is controlled by consents granted by the Herts. County Council and the District Council under the Hertfordshire County Council Act, 1935. Conditions are attached to

the consents which are designed to prevent nuisance and control fires. No new consents were granted during the year.

## REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL

The refuse collection and disposal service is under the control of the Council's Engineer and Surveyor.

The Council undertake a weekly collection of house refuse in all parts of the Urban District and the refuse is disposed of by controlled tipping in gravel pits at Hoddesdon. The collection of trade refuse is also undertaken.

The free collection of bulky items of household refuse such as furniture and mattresses ceased as from 27th September, 1966, and a charge is now made for this service. The free service will, however, recommence as from 1st April, 1968. Garden refuse and builders rubble is not collected.

The separate salvage of waste paper was discontinued on 31st March, 1967, and waste paper is now collected as "refuse".

## CLEAN AIR ACT, 1956

### (a) *Industrial*

In June, complaints were received of nuisance from smuts deposited on a caravan park at Waltham Cross from a chimney adjacent to the Urban District boundary. A deposit gauge was put out and an investigation was undertaken by the Public Health Inspector of Waltham Holy Cross Urban District Council in conjunction with the firm concerned. Consultants were engaged and their report expressed the view that the intermittent emissions were due to low load conditions occurring in the oil fired plant during summer weekends. The company undertook not to use this plant at weekends in future. Observations confirmed that the emissions only occurred occasionally with long intervals between and it did not prove possible to obtain any measurements of value in the deposit bowl or by the alternative methods suggested by Warren Spring Laboratory.

A lengthy investigation was undertaken on this site with deposit gauges in the latter part of 1966 when the laboratory reports on the deposit collected over the period showed that it was comparatively low.

Also in June, the Council received a petition signed by fifty-five persons resident in the Arlington Crescent and Abbey Road area protesting about smoke nuisance from the burning of rubbish in the open at industrial premises in Station Approach, Waltham Cross. The firm concerned were transport contractors who, because of temporary tipping difficulties, were depositing loads of trade and other refuse in their yard and disposing of it by burning.

As a result of informal action, it was stated that the Company intended to continue to burn rubbish at their premises without emitting smoke which is a nuisance to inhabitants of the area. So long as burning on this scale was carried on, however, smoke nuisances were bound to occur and the Council authorised proceedings for an Order prohibiting a recurrence of the smoke nuisance. Proceedings were also taken under the Hertfordshire County Council Acts, 1935 and 1960, in respect of the offence of depositing refuse.

After the summonses were issued, solicitors for the company stated that other premises had been obtained for the deposit of refuse. Adjournment of the proceedings under the Hertfordshire County Council Acts was agreed on the understanding that there would be no repetition of the offence and the costs incurred were reimbursed. An Order under the Clean Air Act prohibiting a recurrence of the smoke nuisance was made by the Cheshunt Court on 30th August.

Four notifications were received during the year of intention to install furnaces but in none of these cases was application made for prior approval to the installation under the Act. Plans were submitted in respect of four new boiler installations showing new chimneys and in all cases the height of the chimney was fixed to comply with the recommendations of the Memorandum on Chimney Heights issued by the Ministry of Housing and Local Government.

(b) *Domestic*

There was no further extension of smoke control areas in Cheshunt during the year.

Smoke Control Area No. 5, which was approved in principle in 1965 was again omitted from the estimates on the review of the 1967/8 programme of capital expenditure.

The proposed No. 5 area is bounded by the north side of Cadmore Lane and Warwick Drive, the east side of the Great Cambridge Road to Hillview Gardens continuing in an easterly direction to the railway line which would form the boundary on the east side.

The area subject to smoke control is 793 acres and the estimated number of houses is 5360

The following table shows the details of the existing smoke control areas :—

Area No.	Acres	Made	Order Confirmed	Operation	Total	Houses—Estimated No.	
						Requiring Adaptation	On which grant paid
1	140	20.12.60	21. 4.61	1.11.61	1562	178	116
2	280	19.12.61	20. 3.62	1.10.62	911	388	187
3	250	18.12.62	28. 3.63	1.10.63	1839	576	330
4.	123	17. 4.64	18. 8.64	1. 7.65	1048	680	484

The effect of a Smoke Control Order is to ban all smoke from chimneys and to require the burning only of "authorised fuels". Garden bonfires are not prohibited in Smoke Control Areas but it is an offence if the smoke therefrom is a nuisance to the inhabitants of the neighbourhood.

## NATIONAL SURVEY OF AIR POLLUTION

The Council continued during the year to take part in the scheme for the measurement of atmospheric pollution which has been in operation since 1961. Three instruments to measure smoke

and sulphur dioxide in the atmosphere are maintained at Eleanor Cross Road, Waltham Cross, Manor House Depot, and Goff's Oak Playing Field. Daily readings are made and submitted to Warren Spring Laboratory who issue statistical summaries of the observations made by all local authorities taking part in the survey.

The Laboratory in a recently published paper on "Trends in Ground Level Concentrations of Smoke and Sulphur Dioxide" state that the reduction of smoke is continuing both in the country as a whole and in London. The reduction in ground level concentration corresponds very well with the estimates of reduction in emission of smoke made on the basis of Ministry of Power fuel consumption statistics; estimated smoke emission in 1966 was about half of that in 1958/9 for the country as a whole and about a third of that in 1958/9 for London.

As regards sulphur dioxide the continuing decrease in ground level concentrations outside London is very gratifying. Ground level concentrations in London were somewhat lower in the 1960's than in the 1950's.

The figures for Cheshunt, as shown in the following tables, conform with these trends.

# AVERAGE YEARLY CONCENTRATION OF SMOKE

Situation	No. of Sites	Smoke concentrations, microgrammes/cubic metre					
		1961-62	1962-63	1963-64	1964-65	1965-66	1966-67
Waltham Cross	1	55	84	76	64	49	47
Cheshunt	1	47	52	45	40	29	34
Goff's Oak	1	32	39	45	26	23	11
Metropolitan London	14	92	112	87	79	67	56

# AVERAGE YEARLY CONCENTRATION OF SULPHUR DIOXIDE

Situation	No. of Sites	Sulphur dioxide concentrations, microgrammes/cubic metre					
		1961-62	1962-63	1963-64	1964-65	1965-66	1966-67
Waltham Cross	1	120	127	117	110	113	113
Cheshunt	1	108	112	96	101	91	101
Goff's Oak	1	43	106	104	73	96	54
Metropolitan London	19	202	234	220	213	188	178

## NOISE ABATEMENT ACT, 1960

This Act makes provision for the control of noise or vibration which is a nuisance. The Act does not apply to noise or vibration caused by aircraft, which are subject to other statutory controls, nor to noise or vibration caused by Statutory Undertakers in the exercise of their powers. In the case of noise or vibration caused in the course of a trade or business it is a defence in any proceedings to show that the best practical means have been used for preventing it and counteracting its effects.

Nine complaints were received during the year but on investigation, only four could be substantiated. These referred to the use of compressed air tools being operated without muffs. In all cases, on informal representations being made, muffs were provided.

The other complaints related to noise from bird scarers, cock crowing and factory noise.

There were no complaints regarding loud speakers in streets.

## SCRAP METAL DEALERS

The Scrap Metal Dealers Act, 1964 requires every local authority to maintain a register of persons carrying on business in their area as scrap metal dealers, and no person may carry on such business in the area of a local authority unless he has been registered. The Public Health Inspectors are authorised for the purposes of inspection under the Act.

The total number of scrap metal dealers on the register at the end of the year was thirty-one, and of these twenty-three were itinerant collectors.

## SHOPS ACT (HOURS OF CLOSING, ETC.)

The Shops (Early Closing Days) Act, 1965 enables Shopkeepers to choose their own early closing day and the Order made by the

Council fixing Thursday as the weekly half holiday ceased to have effect on 5th November, 1965.

## OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963

The Act requires the Local Authority to make an annual report to the Ministry of Labour on their proceedings under the Act for the twelve months ending on 31st December in each year. The prescribed statistics in the form required by the Minister (Form OSR 14) are appended to this report.

### I. Registration and Inspection

During the year 43 new registrations were made and 36 premises were deleted from the register so that the total number of registered premises at the end of the year was 374. At these premises the total number of persons employed was 2,879 an increase of 11 only over the number employed at the end of 1966.

The majority of the premises deleted from the register were subsequently re-registered by the new occupiers, although there was some loss of shop property by demolition in the redevelopment areas and this trend will continue during 1968. New shop premises, however, are being built by the Local Authority in the Cheshunt and Waltham New Town redevelopment areas and the comprehensive redevelopment of the shopping centre at Waltham Cross will provide further modern shopping and office accommodation.

A total of 108 general inspections were made during the year. Of the total number of premises on the register 87% have been inspected. Those not yet inspected are premises newly registered or those which are shortly to be demolished. A "general inspection" means an inspection undertaken for the purpose of ascertaining whether all the relevant provisions in the Act are complied with.

### II. Operation of the General Provisions of the Act

Arising from the inspections made 54 preliminary notices were issued to occupiers in respect of a variety of contraventions which followed much the same pattern as in previous years. All the

notices were complied with and there was no need for recourse to legal proceedings. The following are the principal matters dealt with :—

*Cleanliness*—At four premises walls and ceilings required cleansing and redecoration. Occupiers tend to put off this work as long as possible since it interferes with the normal conduct of the business. Shelves and fittings often have to be removed and if alterations are contemplated it is natural to defer redecoration so that all the work may be done at one time. There is, however, a statutory obligation under the Act to keep all premises and all furniture, furnishings and fittings in a clean state.

*Temperature*—In two cases it was found that the minimum temperature of 60.8°F. was not being maintained and thermometers were not provided in 25 premises. Where the maintenance of a reasonable temperature would cause deterioration of goods then conveniently accessible and effective means of enabling the staff to warm themselves must be provided.

*Lighting*—Two Notices were served requiring the lighting to be improved. It is often found that no expense is spared in providing really effective lighting for the display of goods for sale while the standard in other parts of the premises, such as stockrooms, is only just adequate to satisfy the statutory requirement of "sufficient and suitable lighting." From a point of view of accident prevention and efficient working good lighting is strongly recommended.

*Sanitary Conveniences*—Notices were issued requiring the following works in relation to sanitary conveniences —

Provide seat to W.C. ...	...	...	...	1
Redecorate walls and ceilings	...	...	...	3
Provide adequate lighting	...	...	...	2

Two places were found to be without facilities for the disposal of sanitary dressings as required by the Sanitary Conveniences Regulations, 1964.

*Washing Facilities*—Under this heading, Notices were served as follows —

Provide wash-hand basin	...	...	...	1
Provide hot and cold water	...	...	...	7
Provide towels and soap	...	...	...	2

*Drinking Water*—All premises inspected had a supply of drinking water.

*Clothing*—In one instance, no accommodation was provided for employees clothing not worn during working hours.

*Seating*—In two premises satisfactory seating was not provided.

*Eating Facilities*—One shop was found to have inadequate eating facilities for their employees.

*First-Aid*—In 18 cases, no first-aid equipment was provided or the equipment was insufficient to comply with the First-Aid Order, 1964.

*Abstracts*—In 30 premises, no abstract of the Act was available for the information of the employees.

*Dangerous Equipment*—In one instance a guillotine was found to be unfenced and in two cases electric fires which were considered to be dangerous were found in use.

*Construction and Maintenance of Floors, etc.*—All floors, stairs, steps, passages and gangways are required by the Act to be of sound construction, properly maintained, kept free of obstruction and free of any substance likely to cause a person to slip.

In one premises passageways were found to be obstructed with packing cases and at three premises the floors or floor coverings were found to be in such a condition that an accident could have been caused.

### III Accidents

The Act requires the occupier of the premises in which an accident occurs to give notice of the accident in the prescribed form if the accident

- (a) causes loss of life to a person employed in the premises or
- (b) disables any such person for more than three days from doing his usual work.

Four accidents were reported during the year and all occurred in retail shops. All the accidents were investigated and in two cases no further action was called for. The other two accidents resulted from the use of power driven machinery. In one, a youth had his wrist severed by an electrical hand operated circular saw. The Council decided to institute legal proceedings but the case had not been heard before the end of the year.

In the other case, a youth employed at a supermarket had his thumb injured by the blade of a gravity feed slicing machine. He used his hand to press down the meat, although the machine was fitted with a 'last slice' pusher. The machine was not fitted with a guard at the time of the accident. The Council decided not to prosecute in this case.

A survey of premises where electrically operated gravity feed slicing machines are in use revealed that 9 machines were not provided with suitable guards. The occupiers were immediately put in touch with manufacturers who are able to supply guards for these machines.

## REGISTRATIONS AND GENERAL INSPECTIONS

	Number of premises registered during the year	Total number of registered premises at end of year	Number of registered premises receiving a general inspec- tion during the year
Offices ... ..	25	119	44
Retail shops ... ..	16	221	46
Wholesale shops, ware- houses ... ..	2	15	3
Catering establishments open to the public, canteens ... ..	—	19	15
Fuel storage depots	—	—	—

## NUMBER OF VISITS

Number of visits of all kinds by inspectors to registered  
premises ... .. 214

## ANALYSIS OF PERSONS EMPLOYED IN REGISTERED PREMISES BY WORKPLACE

Class of Workplace	Number of persons employed
Offices ... ..	1,014
Retail shops ... ..	1,430
Wholesale departments, warehouses ... ..	352
Catering establishments open to the public	72
Canteens ... ..	11
Fuel storage depots	—
Total ... ..	<u>2,879</u>
Total Males ... ..	1,239
Total Females ... ..	1,640

Exemptions	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
Prosecutions	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil

## INSPECTORS

Number of inspectors appointed under Section 52(1) or (5) of the Act ... .. 3

Number of other staff employed for most of their time on work in connection with the Act ... .. Nil

## INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

### FOOD HYGIENE (GENERAL) REGULATIONS, 1960

Food premises in the area classified according to type of business are given below :—

Type of Premises	No. of Premises	Personal Washing Facilities	Washing facilities for Equipment	
		No. fitted to Comply with Reg. 16	No. to which Reg. 19 applies	No. fitted to Comply with Reg. 19
Slaughterhouses ... ..	1	1	1	1
Licensed Premises ... ..	36	36	36	36
Grocery and Provisions	36	36	16	16
Fruiterers and Greengrocers	30	30	16	16
Fish Friers ... ..	4	4	4	4
Fishmongers ... ..	6	6	6	6
Dairies and Milkshops	20	20	—	—
Chemists ... ..	10	10	10	10
Confectioners ... ..	62	62	—	—
Cafes, Caterers and Canteens	73	73	73	73
Butchers ... ..	25	25	25	25
Bakers ... ..	38	38	16	16
Bakehouses ... ..	4	4	4	4

## MEAT AND OTHER FOOD INSPECTIONS

During the year 332 visits were made to shops and premises where food is prepared or exposed for sale as detailed in the following table :—

Slaughterhouses	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	106
Butcher Shops	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	32
Fish Shops	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Ice Cream Premises	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	21
Cafes and Restaurants	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	21
School Canteens	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Other Food Shops and Food Premises	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	94
Licensed Premises	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	11
Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Mobile Shops	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10
Milk Premises	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	11
Egg Albumen Plant	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	11

During the course of these inspections contraventions of the Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, 1960, were found as follows:—

1. Part II — General requirements — 2 contraventions
2. Part IV — Requirements relating — 5 contraventions  
to food premises

In all cases these matters were remedied as a result of informal action.

## REGISTRATION OF FOOD PREMISES

The number of food premises registered under Section 16 of the Foods and Drugs Act, 1955 is shown in the following table :—

Premises	No.
Ice Cream Premises	71
Food Preparing Premises	18

## UNSOUND FOOD SURRENDERED OR CONDEMNED

	tons	cwts.	lb.
Meat at slaughterhouse	...	5	1
Meat at retail shops	...		15
Canned meats		1	53
Total		6	69
46			

## CONDEMNATION CERTIFICATES

In June, the Council decided that the Department would not for the purpose of credit claims against the supplier undertake the examination and certification of food stuffs which had been rejected by wholesalers and retailers because they are blown, damaged, punctured or rusted or are otherwise obviously unfit since the food stuff is then trade refuse and is not intended for sale for human consumption.

The Public Health Inspectors were authorised to issue certificates without charge where due to exceptional circumstances, a wholesaler or retailer has difficulty in substantiating a reclaim for food stuffs without local authority support.

The services of the Public Health Inspectors are, of course, always available to traders and others seeking advice when in doubt about the fitness of food stuffs for human consumption.

## SLAUGHTERHOUSES

There is only one slaughterhouse in Cheshunt and this is licensed until 30th September, 1968.

The Meat Inspection Regulations, 1963 require that meat at slaughterhouses must be inspected and when passed as fit for human consumption must be marked. There is no difficulty in maintaining 100% inspection and as provided by Regulations, the Council make charges for meat inspection at the rate of 2s. 6d. for cattle, 9d. per calf or pig and 6d. per sheep, lamb or goat. Charges for the year amounted to £93. 19. 6d.

Details of carcasses and offal inspected and condemned are shown in the following table :—

		Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number killed ...	...	241	—	1	1,471	721	—
Number inspected ...	...	241	—	1	1,471	721	—

*All Diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci:*

Whole carcasses condemned	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which some parts or organ was con- demned ...	...	17	—	—	10	24

*Tuberculosis only:*

Whole carcasses condemned	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was con- demned ...	...	—	—	—	8	—

*Cysticerci:*

Carcases of which some part or organ was con- demned ...	...	4	—	—	—	—
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigera- tion ...	...	4	—	—	—	—
Generalised and totally condemned ...	...	—	—	—	—	—

Meat specimens from slaughterhouses submitted to laboratories for examination — 2.

## POULTRY INSPECTION

There are no poultry processing premises within the Urban District.

## METHOD OF DISPOSAL OF CONDEMNED FOOD

Condemned foodstuffs are buried with suitable precautions at the Council's Refuse Disposal Tip.

## LICENSING OF SLAUGHTERMEN

Four slaughtermen's licences to slaughter animals in a Slaughterhouse by the captive bolt method were renewed for the period of one year.

## MILK LICENCES

Under the Milk (Special Designations) Regulations, 1963, licences to use the following designations were issued :

Pasteurised	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Sterilised...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Ultra Heat Treated	...	...	...	...	...	...	1

The licences all expire on 31st December, 1970.

## MILK SUPPLIES — BRUCELLA ABORTUS

The County Council undertake sampling for the presence of tubercle bacilli and brucella abortus. No report of the presence of either of these organisms was received during the year.

## LIQUID EGG (PASTEURISATION) REGULATIONS, 1963

There are no egg pasteurisation plants in the Urban District.

## EGG ALBUMEN HEAT TREATMENT

The Heat Treatment Plant at Walcross Poultry Farm, Waltham Cross was again used during the year for the heat treatment of imported egg albumen powder.

In July, a consignment of eighteen cartons was sampled at the port and found to be free from salmonella but the cartons had been so badly damaged in transit that it was thought desirable that further heat treatment should be carried out before release.

Eighteen samples submitted for laboratory examination after treatment were reported upon as satisfactory.

In August, eighty-one 56 lb. cartons, which had been found to contain salmonella on sampling at the port, were submitted to heat treatment at 130 deg. Fahrenheit for two periods of five days after which the laboratory reports on twenty samples were satisfactory and the consignment was released.

In October, a consignment was received consisting of forty-five 50 lb. cartons, which had been sampled by the Port of London Authority when two cartons were found to contain salmonella and also by the London Borough of Southwark when four different cartons were found to contain salmonella. This batch was heat treated for fourteen days at 130 deg. Fahrenheit, after which samples from twenty-two cartons were submitted for laboratory examination and one carton was found to contain *Salmonella montevideo*. After discussion with the laboratory and the owners of the consignment, an undertaking was given that the egg albumen would be used for industrial purposes and the necessary arrangements were made for supervision of its disposal.

The importation of consignments of contaminated egg albumen such as this are a matter of some concern since difficult problems arise as to the fitness or otherwise of the material for human consumption. Representations were made to the appropriate Government Department who undertook to investigate the possibility of more stringent checks for contamination of these products being made in the country of origin.

#### FOOD COMPLAINTS AND FOOD SAMPLES EXAMINED BY THE PUBLIC ANALYST

Fifty-three samples were submitted for analysis by the Public Analyst during the year and of these forty-two were routine samples of a wide variety of foods and drugs. All the routine samples were reported upon as genuine with the exception of a sample of Apricot Chutney which contained preservative.

The remaining eleven samples were submitted to the Analyst as a result of complaints and all these samples were reported upon as being unsatisfactory.

Fourteen complaints relating to food stuffs sold in Cheshunt during the year were received. Three complaints were dealt with without the Analyst's report. These concerned mould in sausages and in bread and part of a brass screw in tinned fruit.

Details of the eleven complaints for which specimens were submitted to the Public Analyst are as follows :—

Commodity	No.	Foreign Body
<i>(a) Foreign Bodies</i>		
Pork Luncheon Meat	1	Match Stick
Slices of Ham	1	Salt Crystals
Bread	1	Felt Pen in Loaf
Bottle of Milk	1	Flies and Maggots
<i>(b) Mould</i>		
Chicken and Ham Croquettes	1	
Meat Pasties	1	
Plum Jam	1	
<i>(c) Infestation</i>		
Chocolate	2	
Groats	1	
Figs in Syrup	1	

PROSECUTIONS

1. Under Section 2 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955 .....	6
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2. Total amount of fines and costs imposed .....	£254. 12. 0d.
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Also proceedings were taken in July regarding a complaint made in 1966 relating to foreign matter in cheese. A fine of £25 and 6 guineas costs was imposed.

## BACTERIOLOGICAL SAMPLING

1. Total number of samples taken .....	58
2. Results of ice cream samples :	

Grade	Mobiles				Premises			
	I	II	III	IV	I	II	III	IV
Soft Ice Cream .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other Ice Cream ....	—	—	—	—	11	2	—	—

### 3. Other Foods:

Samples taken:

Egg Albumen ..... 36

Milk ..... 9

Analysis of Milk Samples:

	Pasteurised	Sterilised	Total
Number taken .....	8	1	9

Methylene Blue Test:

Number ..... 8

Satisfactory ..... 8

Failed ..... —

Void ..... —

Phosphatase Test:

Number ..... 8

Satisfactory ..... 8

Failed ..... —

Turbidity Test:

Number ..... 1

Passed ..... 1

## PESTICIDES AND OTHER TOXIC CHEMICALS

The Council are taking part in the systematic enquiry into the extent of contamination of food stuffs by toxic chemicals. The revised sampling scheme, which came into operation during the year, lays down the samples which should be taken by each participating authority and four samples only were required from Cheshunt. These were brussels sprouts, lettuce, potatoes and tomatoes. All four samples were reported upon as satisfactorily free from pesticides residues.

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